

REMARKS

In view of the fact that allowable subject matter has been indicated to be present in the case, an earnest effort has been made to bring the application to issue without delay.

1. The priority claim acknowledgement in paragraph 13 of PTO 326 is appreciated.

2. A substitute specification is enclosed which includes a cross reference to the related applications and section headings as provided in 37 CFR 1.78. The large insert to the specification is derived from the original claims and replaces a reference in the body of the application to the claims.

The substitute specification does not contain any new matter. A marked up version of the substitute specification is submitted as well.

3. The substitute specification makes the correction of the informality identified in paragraph 2 of page 3 of the Office Action.

4. Claims 1, 3 - 5 and 7 have been objected to on formal grounds but have otherwise been indicated as containing allowable subject matter. Accordingly, claims 1 and 3 have been written in independent form to eliminate the informalities noted by the Examiner and to be properly independent while the remaining claims

are dependent on these claims. Claim 2 has been retained because it requires a press fit between the spinneret plate and the housing and that is not shown in the art which has been cited. The claims are directed to a system in which a press fit seal able to sustain pressure of the polymer melting is formed directly between, for example, the spinneret plate and the housing and that is not found in the applied art.

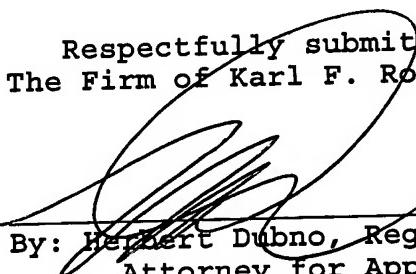
5. The Examiner, in applying art against claims 2 and 6 has relied upon the SCHROEDER et al Patent 5,601,854 in combination with COATES Patent 3,768,661. However, that latter reference teaches the use of a seal 23 which is compressed between the upper part 11 and the lower part 12 of the rigid body. At column 1, line 37, the COATES patent describes a "... thermal coefficient of expansion in excess of that of the material of said surrounding wall and of plasticity sufficient at the working temperature..." The seal has a different thermal coefficient than the apparatus body. The sealing can be used only once after it has been heated to a temperature of 290°C and after it has been compressed with a pressure of 1400 pounds per square inch gauge. That is precisely the replaceable seal that the invention avoids by providing the press fit seal as a result of the greater thermal expansion coefficient of the spinneret plate than that of the housing. Claims 2 and 6 as originally drafted and as these claims now stand should be allowable.

6. A charge form covering the fee for multiple dependent claims is enclosed since claims 4 - 7 have been converted into multiple dependencies.

7. A PTO 1449 Form is also enclosed listing the references which have been mentioned in the body of the application. A separate Information Disclosure Statement is not required since the references were apprised to the Examiner in the application which contains a discussion of them. No fee is required since these documents have been known to the Patent and Trademark Office from the date of filing of this application.

Since this application is now in condition for allowance an early notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
The Firm of Karl F. Ross P.C.

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Enc: Substitute Specification
Marked up copy of Specification
PTO 2038 Charge Form (multiply dependent claims)
PTO Form 1449

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